

REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 37, 38 and 41 are pending in the application. In the Office Action dated May 24, 2004, the Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Further, Claims 1-10, 14, 37-38 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,489,841 ("Bull"). Additionally, Claims 11-13 and 15-17 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, however the Examiner stated these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

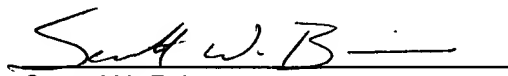
Accordingly, in this Amendment, Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-17, 37, 38, and 41 and rewritten allowable dependent Claims 11-13 and 15-17 in independent form, with the remaining dependent claims depending therefrom, as new Claims 49-57. In particular, dependent Claim 11 has been rewritten as Independent Claim 49, dependent Claim 12 has been rewritten as Independent Claim 51, dependent Claim 13 has been rewritten as Independent Claim 53, dependent Claim 15 has been rewritten as Independent Claim 55, dependent Claim 16 has been rewritten as Independent Claim 56, and dependent Claim 17 has been rewritten as Independent Claim 57.

Applicants submit that Independent Claims 49, 51, 53, and 55-57, and their dependent claims are in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added by the addition of Claims 49-57. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested. If there are any questions concerning this Response, the Examiner is asked to phone the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4200.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Scott W. Brim", is written over a horizontal line.

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